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VIRGINIA WORKPLACE FATALITIES FOR 2001 MORE THAN DOUBLED DUE TO THE 9/11 TERRORIST ATTACK AT THE PENTAGON

RICHMOND – The Virginia Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) showed 311 occupational fatalities in the Commonwealth in 2001, more than double the 148 fatalities from 2000. The significant increase was caused by the September 11 terrorist attack at the Pentagon that resulted in 165 of the workplace fatalities. All 125 deaths in the Pentagon building and 40 of the 59 fatalities on the plane (not counting the five terrorists) were work-related. Excluding these fatalities, the overall workplace fatality count was 146 for 2001.

"We are saddened by the number of lives lost from the unforeseen events of the September 11 terrorist attack at the Pentagon last year as well as the loss of other workers who died in work-related accidents in Virginia," said Labor and Industry Commissioner C. Ray Davenport. "This detailed count of workplace fatalities increases public awareness and helps pinpoint where safety and health problems exist, and efforts to address hazards can be put in place to prevent future job-related fatalities."

Workplace Fatalities from the September 11 terrorist attack at the Pentagon

Of the 125 workers who died in the Pentagon building, 60 were federal civilian employees, 54 were active members in the armed forces (32 were in the U.S. Navy, 22 were in the U.S. Army) and 11 were working in private industry. Six flight crew and 34 passengers made up the workers who were on the plane that struck the Pentagon (28 passengers were in private industry, 3 were in federal government and 3 were in state government). Nearly all of the

165 fatalities from the terrorist attack at the Pentagon, 98 percent, were wage and salary workers. Men accounted for 63 percent or 104 of the employees. Workers aged 25 to 54 made up 131 of the fatal victims, 61 were in the 35 to 44 age range. Sixty-four percent of the fatal victims were white, non-Hispanic; 28 percent were black, non-Hispanic; 4 percent were Hispanic or Latino; and 4 percent were Asian. (See table A.) The summary occupational group, managerial and professional specialty, had 92 or 56 percent of the fatalities. (See table B.) The services industry division made up 30 of the 45 workplace fatalities in private industry. (See table C.)

Workplace Fatalities (excluding September 11 fatality cases)

The total number of workers killed in 2001 (excluding the 9/11 fatalities) was 146, similar to the 148 deaths from 2000. Transportation accidents, which includes highway, nonhighway, pedestrian, air, water, and rail fatalities, increased by 20 from the previous year and were the leading cause of fatalities in the workplace, accounting for 68 deaths. The increase from 2000 was mainly due to the growth of cases from highway incidents, 26 in 2000 to 39 in 2001. Assaults and violent acts, which includes homicides and suicides, were the lowest since the census began in 1992 and made up 10 fatal workplace injuries, decreasing by 16 from the previous year. Fatal occupational injuries involving contact with objects and equipment increased by 9 in 2001 to 31. (See table 1.)

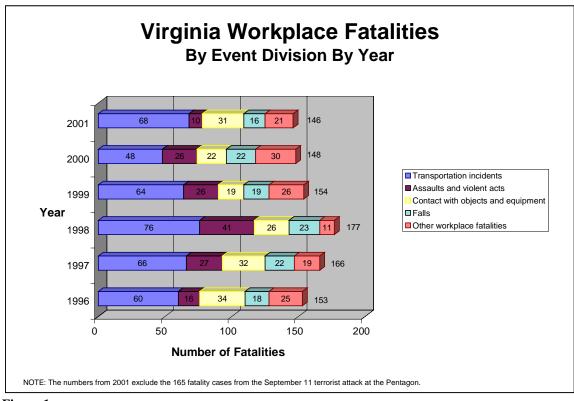


Figure 1

Operators, fabricators, and laborers, the largest summary occupational group, accounted for 48 workplace fatalities in 2001. (See table 3.) Construction had the most deaths of any industry division in the census and made up 29 percent of the fatal work-related injuries. The retail trade industry division showed the largest decrease, dropping by 10 from 16 in 2000 to 6. (See table 4.)

- □ Seventy-nine percent of employees killed on the job were wage and salary workers; the rest were self-employed.
- ☐ Men accounted for almost all, 96 percent, work-related fatalities in Virginia.
- □ Workers aged 25 to 54, the prime working age group, made up 103 of the fatalities in 2001.
- □ Seventy percent of the fatal victims were white, non-Hispanic; 18 percent were black, non-Hispanic; 8 percent were Hispanic or Latino; 2 percent were Asian. (See table 2.)
- □ The three specific occupations with the most workplace fatalities in 2001 were: **truck drivers** (13), 10 were transportation incidents, all of which were highway accidents; **construction laborers** (11), 6 were transportation incidents; and **farmers**, **except horticultural** (8), half were due to contact with objects and equipment.

Nationwide

A total of 8,786 fatal work injuries were reported in 2001, including fatalities related to the September 11 terrorist attacks, according to the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. A total of 2,886 work-related fatalities resulted from the events of September 11. Excluding these fatalities, the overall workplace fatality count was 5,900 for 2001. For additional information on the national census of fatal occupational injuries, access the following website, http://stats.bls.gov/iif/oshcfoi1.htm.

Technical Notes

The Virginia Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries was conducted by the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. For more information, go to our agency website, http://www.doli.state.va.us, and click on Cooperative Programs and then Research and Analysis.

Information on fatal occupational injuries was compiled from a variety of administrative sources including death certificates, motor vehicle traffic accident reports, medical examiners' reports, State and Federal workers' compensation reports, and other government investigative reports. Each fatality was substantiated by either two independent source documents or one source document and a follow-up questionnaire to the employer or other contact (excluding next-of-kin) who had knowledge about the circumstances of the incident.

The CFOI program is designed to provide the safety and health community with verified counts of fatal work injuries as well as basic information on fatalities such as how the injury

occurred and the age, occupation, and other demographic data concerning the fatally injured person. It is hoped that the availability of improved, more detailed data will be used to help prevent future fatalities in the workplace.

While the purpose of the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries is to compile a complete count of traumatic workplace fatalities, information was also collected on fatal occupational illnesses that were recognized as work related or that occurred at work. A comprehensive count of fatalities resulting from occupational illnesses cannot be produced from current data largely because of the latency period associated with many occupational illnesses, as well as the difficulty in associating illnesses with exposures in the workplace. Therefore, fatal occupational illnesses are excluded from the tables.

Table A. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics, Virginia, 2001, fatalities from events of September 11, 2001

Worker characteristics	Total fatalities			
	Number	Percent		
Total	165	100		
Employee Status				
Wage and Salary Workers ¹ Self-employed ²	162 3	98 2		
Sex				
Men Women	104 61	63 37		
Age				
Under 16 years 16 to 17 years 18 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 34 years 35 to 44 years 45 to 54 years 55 to 64 years 65 years and over	 6 23 61 47 24	 4 14 37 28 15		
Race or Ethnic Origin				
White, non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic Hispanic or Latino American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	105 46 7 6	64 28 4 4		

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ May include volunteers and other workers receiving compensation.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

² Includes paid and unpaid family workers, and may include owners of incorporated businesses, or members of partnerships.

TABLE B. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation, Virginia, 2001, fatalities from events of September 11, 2001

Occupation ¹	Total fatalities			
	Number	Percent		
Total	165	100		
Managerial and professional specialty	92	56		
Executive, administrative, and managerial	74	45		
Administrators and officials, public administration	17	10		
Managers, service organizations, n.e.c.	4	2		
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	12	7		
Management related occupations	36	22		
Accountants and auditors	9	5		
Other financial officers	21	13		
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	4	2		
Professional specialty	18	11		
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	5	3		
Engineers	5	3		
Aerospace engineers	4	2		
Mathematical and computer scientists	4	2		
Computer systems analysts and scientists	3	2		
Teachers, except postsecondary	3	2		
Teachers, elementary school	3	2		
Lawyers and judges	3	2		
Lawyers	3	2		
Technical, sales, and administrative support	12	7		
Technicians and related support occupations	4	2		
Technicians, except health, engineering, and science	3	2		
Administrative support occupations, including clerical	8	5		
Secretaries, stenographers, and typists	5	3		
Secretaries	5	3		
Service occupations	4	2		
Service occupations, except protective and household	4	2		
Personal service occupations	4	2		
Public transportation attendants	4	2		
Military occupations	54	33		

¹Based on the 1990 Occupational Classification System developed by the Bureau of the Census.

TABLE C. Fatal occupational injuries by industry, Virginia, 2001, fatalities from events of September 11, 2001

Industry ¹	Total fatalities			
	Number	Percent		
Total	165	100		
Private Industry	45	27		
Manufacturing	4	2		
Transportation and public utilities	9	5		
Transportation by air	7	4		
Air transportation, scheduled and				
air courier services	7	4		
Air transportation, scheduled	7	4		
Services	30	18		
Business services	7	4		
Computer and data processing services	7	4		
Legal services	3	2		
Membership organizations	3	2		
Engineering and management services	14	8		
Engineering and architectural services	4	2		
Engineering services	4	2		
Research and testing services	3	2		
Management and public relations	7	4		
Government ²	120	73		
Federal Government (including resident				
armed forces)	117	71		
Public Administration	117	71		
National security and international affairs	116	70		
National security	116	70		
State Government	3	2		
Services	3	2		
Educational services	3	2		
Elementary and secondary schools	3	2		
Local Government				

¹ Classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, 1987.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

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n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

² Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

There were less than 5 fatalities for which there was insufficient information to determine a specific industry classification, though a distinction between private and government was made for each.

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TABLE 1. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure and major private industry division, Virginia, 2001

ABLE 1. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure and major private industry division, Virginia, 2001 Private Industry ²										
				1	Ī	(percent)	1	1		
Event or exposure ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Agricul- ture, forestry, and fishing	Mining	Construc- tion	Manufac- turing	Transpor- tation and public utilities	Whole- sale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insur- ance, and real estate	Services
Total	146	16.4	-	28.8	15.1	11.0	4.8	4.1		11.6
Transportation incidents	68	13.2		23.5	11.8	17.6	8.8	_		11.8
Highway incident	39			23.1	10.3	25.6	15.4			10.3
Collision between vehicles, mobile equipment	17			23.5		17.6	17.6			
Moving in opposite directions, oncoming	7		-	-			-			-
Moving in intersection	5						- ا	_		
Moving and standing vehicle, mobile equipmentin										
roadway	3		-	-		-	-			-
Vehicle struck stationary object, equipment on side of road	15					40.0	-	-		-
Noncollision incident	6						-	-		
Jack-knifed or overturnedno collision	4						-	-		
Nonhighway incident, except rail, air, water	14	42.9		28.6			-	-		-
Noncollision incident	11	54.5		36.4			-	-		-
Fell from and struck by vehicle, mobile equipment	3						l -	-		
Overturned	7	71.4		-		-	-	-		-
Pedestrian, nonpassenger struck by vehicle, mobile equipment	11	27.3	-	27.3			-			-
Pedestrian struck by vehicle, mobile equipment in roadway	4						-	-		-
Pedestrian struck by vehicle, mobile equipment in										
parking lot or non-roadway area	6			-			-	-		
Assaults and violent acts	10			-			-	30.0		30.0
Homicides	7						-	42.9		
Shooting	6						-	50.0		-
Self-inflicted injury	3					-	-	-		-
Suicide, attempted suicide	3						-	-		
Contact with objects and equipment	31	25.8		22.6	25.8	12.9	-	-		-
Struck by object	19	15.8		31.6	31.6		-	-		-
Struck by falling object	13	23.1		38.5	30.8	-	-	-		-
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	10	40.0		-			-	-		-
Caught in running equipment or machinery	5			-			-	-		
Compressed or pinched by rolling, sliding, or shifting										
objects	3			-		-	-	-		
Falls	16			75.0			-	-		-
Fall to lower level	16			75.0		-	-	-		-
Fall from floor, dock, or ground level	3		-	100.0			-	-		-
Fall through existing floor opening	3			100.0		-	-	-		-
Fall from ladder	3			100.0		-	-	-		-
Fall from roof	3			100.0		-	-	-		-
Fall from roof edge	3			100.0		-	-	-		-
Fall to lower level, n.e.c.	4			-			-	-		-
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	11			36.4			-	-		
Contact with electric current	7			57.1]	-	-		_
Contact with overhead power lines	3					-	l -	-		-
Fires and explosions	9			33.3		-	l -	-		-
Fireunintended or uncontrolled	6			50.0		-	l -	-		_
Fire in residence, building, or other structure	3		_	1 -] -	l -	-	-	_
Explosion	3		-	-	_			_		_

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

 $^{^2\,\}mbox{Classified}$ according to the $\it Standard$ Industrial Classification Manual, 1987.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics and event or exposure, Virginia, 2001

Table 21 Tatal Cocupational Inju	Event or exposure, Virginia, 2001 Event or exposure ¹									
				(per	cent)					
Worker characteristics	Total fatalities (number)	Transpor- tation incidents ²	Assaults and violent acts ³	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments	Fires and explosions			
Total	146	46.6	6.8	21.2	11.0	7.5	6.2			
Employee Status										
Wage and Salary Workers ⁴ Self-employed ⁵	116 30	49.1 36.7	6.0 10.0		10.3 13.3	8.6	6.0 			
Sex										
Men Women	140 6	46.4 50.0		22.1 	11.4 	7.1 	6.4			
Age										
Under 16 years										
16 to 17 years										
18 to 19 years										
20 to 24 years	6					50.0				
25 to 34 years	34	41.2	11.8	23.5	11.8	8.8				
35 to 44 years	33	42.4		18.2	18.2		9.1			
45 to 54 years	36	58.3		16.7	13.9					
55 to 64 years	23	56.5		26.1						
65 years and over	12	25.0		41.7						
Race or Ethnic Origin										
White, non-Hispanic	102	48.0	7.8	18.6	9.8	8.8	5.9			
Black, non-Hispanic	27	44.4		33.3						
Hispanic or Latino	12	33.3		25.0	25.0					
American Indian or Alaska Native										
Asian	3									
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander										

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

incorporated businesses, or members of partnerships.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

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 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, and rail fatalities.

 $^{^{\}rm 3}$ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and assaults by animals.

 $^{^{\}rm 4}$ May include volunteers and other workers receiving compensation.

 $^{^{\}rm 5}$ Includes paid and unpaid family workers, and may include owners of

TABLE 3. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and event or exposure, Virginia, 2001

TABLE 3. Fatal occupational injuries by occup		Event or exposure ² (percent)						
Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Transpor- tation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments	Fires and explosions	
Total	146	46.6	6.8	21.2	11.0	7.5	6.2	
Managerial and professional specialty	9	77.8						
Executive, administrative, and managerial	4	75.0						
Professional specialty	5	80.0						
Technical, sales, and administrative support	11	63.6	36.4					
Technicians and related support occupations	3	100.0						
Sales occupations	5	60.0						
Supervisors and proprietors, sales occupations	4	75.0						
Administrative support occupations, including clerical	3							
Service occupations	9	33.3	44.4					
Protective service occupations	3							
Service occupations, except protective and household	6							
Cleaning and building service occupations, except house								
Farming, forestry, and fishing	28	28.6				14.3		
Farming operators and managers	8	37.5		50.0				
Farmers, except horticultural	8	37.5		50.0				
Other agricultural and related occupations	14	35.7		28.6		28.6		
Farm occupations, except managerial	7	42.9						
Farm workers	6							
Related agricultural occupations	7			42.9				
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	6			50.0				
Forestry and logging occupations	6			83.3				
Timber cutting and logging occupations	6			83.3				
Precision production, craft, and repair	38	28.9		7.9	36.8	13.2	10.5	
Mechanics and repairers	5							
Mechanics and repairers, except supervisors	5							
Industrial machinery repairers	3							
Construction trades	26	23.1			46.2	15.4	11.5	
Supervisors, construction occupations	4							
Supervisors, n.e.c.	3							
Construction trades, except supervisors	22	18.2			50.0	18.2	13.6	
Carpenters and apprentices	6				66.7			
Electricians and apprentices	4							
Precision production occupations	6	50.0						
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	48	64.6		29.2				
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	6	66.7						
Machine operators and tenders, except precision	4	75.0						
Machine operators, assorted materials	4	75.0						
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	3							
Transportation and material moving occupations	26	80.8		19.2				
Motor vehicle operators	18	83.3		16.7				
Truck drivers	13	76.9		23.1				
Driver-sales workers	3	100.0						
Material moving equipment operators	7	71.4						
Operating engineers	6	66.7						
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	16	37.5		56.3				
Construction laborers	11	54.5		36.4				
Laborers, except construction	3			100.0				
Military occupations	3							

 $^{^{\}rm 1}\,\textsc{Based}$ on the 1990 Occupational Classification System developed by the Bureau of the Census.

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 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

³ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, and rail fatalities.

 $^{^{\}rm 4}$ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and assaults by animals.

TABLE 4. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and event or exposure, Virginia, 2001

			Event or exposure ² (percent)					
Industry ¹	SIC code ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Transpor- tation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments	Fires and explosions
Total		146	46.6	6.8	21.2	11.0	7.5	6.2
Private Industry		136	45.6	5.9	21.3	11.8	8.1	6.6
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing		24	37.5		33.3		16.7	
Agricultural production-crops	01	9	44.4		33.3			
General farms, primarily crop	019	7	42.9		42.9			
Agricultural production - livestock	02	6						
Dairy farms	024	5						
Agricultural services	07	9	33.3		33.3			
Landscape and horticultural services	078	7			42.9			
Ornamental shrub and tree services	0783	5			60.0			
Construction		42	38.1		16.7	28.6	9.5	7.1
General building contractors	15	3						
Heavy construction, except building	16	6			50.0			
Heavy construction, except highway	162	4						
Special trade contractors	17	33	42.4		12.1	27.3	9.1	9.1
Painting and paper hanging	172	5	60.0					
Electrical work	173	6						
Masonry, stonework, and plastering	174	3						
Carpentry and floor work	175	5						
Carpentry work	1751	4						
Roofing, siding, and sheet metal work	176	3						
Miscellaneous special trade contractors	179	9	66.7					
Excavation work	1794	5	60.0					
Special trade contractors, n.e.c.	1799	3	100.0					
Manufacturing		22	36.4		36.4			
Lumber and wood products	24	10	40.0		60.0			
Logging	241	5			80.0			
Sawmills and planing mills	242	3						
Sawmills and planing mills, general	2421	3						
Transportation and public utilities		16	75.0		25.0			
Local and interurban passenger transit	41	3	100.0					
Trucking and warehousing Trucking and courier services,	42	10	70.0		30.0			
except air	421	10	70.0		30.0			
Local trucking without storage	4212	3						
Trucking, except local	4213	6	66.7					
Wholesale trade		7	85.7					
Wholesale tradenondurable goods	51	5	80.0					
Retail trade		6		50.0				
Eating and drinking places	58	3						
Eating places	5812	3						
Services		17	47.1	17.6				
Personal services	72	4						
Business services	73	5						
Government ⁵		10	60.0					
Federal Government (including resident								
armed forces)		3						
Public Administration		3						
National security and international affairs	97	3						
National security	971	3						
State Government								
Local Government		5	60.0					
Public Administration		3						

¹ Classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, 1987.

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